

City of Long Beach 2005 Homeless Census

In 2004, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) mandated that all Continuum of Care (CoC) jurisdictions complete a point-in-time street and service based homeless census the last week of January 2005. The point-in-time counts are being conducted in an effort to arrive at local, state and national statistics regarding the scope of homelessness across the nation. Long Beach, Glendale and Pasadena operate a Continuum of Care System for homeless services, separate from the Los Angeles County CoC. The Continuum of Care system includes: street outreach, emergency, transitional and permanent supportive housing with supportive services such as employment, mental health, substance abuse treatment, childcare, lifeskills and case management to move homeless clients along the continuum of care to achieve self-sufficiency.

It is important to note that funding is not contingent on the amount of homelessness within a community. Point in time counts will vary each time. Variance may be attributed to multiple factors, including: 1) weather; 2) Long Beach homeless placed in shelter programs outside of the city; 3) several large and well known encampment areas located by street count teams, but inhabitants not present to be counted; 4) count teams unable to identify or locate homeless due to their ability to hide and/or evade detection in some parts of the city and 5) the time of the year and month the count is conducted.

Other points to consider when reviewing the 2005 Homeless Census data summary include: 1) The winter shelter was in operation (from December to March annually) during the 2005 count, thus there were an additional 200 sheltered individuals; 2) recipients of motel vouchers and those residing in weekly motels were not included in the count (due to the restrictive definition of homelessness as provided by HUD); and 3) increased coordination and outreach efforts targeting chronically homeless has increased the number of chronically homeless being placed into permanent housing each year.

The National Alliance on Homelessness utilizes a formula for estimating the annual number of persons homeless over a course of a year, based on point in time counts, which is approximately four times that of the point-in-time count. The annualized number takes into account those individuals and families that experience episodes of homeless (homeless for less than 1 year) over the course of a given year. By applying this formula to the count completed on January 27, 2005, approximately 17,900 Long Beach residents a year will experience homelessness.

For more information on the count please contact Susan Price, Homeless Services Coordinator at 562 570-4003 or to get involved in the City of Long Beach strategic planning process: Within Our Reach: A Community Partnership To End Homelessness, please contact Corinne Schneider, Manager, Bureau of Human and Social Services at 562 570-4275.



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City of Long Beach 2005 Homeless Count Statistics January 27, 2005

Location	Adults	%	Children	%	Total	%
Facility	1,175	36.79%	226	17.64%	1,401	31.31%
Street	2,019	63.21%	1,055	82.36%	3,074	68.69%
<u>Totals</u>	3,194	100.00%	1,281	100.00%	4,475	100.00%

Family Status

Married	408	12.77%
Single	2786	87.23%
<u>Totals</u>	3,194	100.00%

Ethnicity

Ethnicity				
African American or	1,277	39.98%		
Black				
American Indian or	79	2.47%		
Alaska				
Asian/Pacific Islander	64	2.00%		
Hispanic or Latino	510	15.98%		
Other	86	2.69%		
White	1,178	36.88%		
Totals	3,194	100.00%		

Gender

Female	794	24.86%
Male	2398	74.83%
Transgender	2	0.31%
<u>Totals</u>	3,194	100.00%

Chronically Homeless

Chronically Homeless 1,056 is equal to 33% of the point-in-time census or 5.9% of the annualized homeless census.